

15.0 GLOSSARY AND LIST OF ACRONYMS

15.1 GLOSSARY

Abatement: mitigation of noise

A horizon: the A horizon is soil zone immediately below surface, from which soluble material and fine-grained particles have been moved downward by water seeping into soil. Varying amounts of organic matter give A horizon color ranging from gray to black.

Alluvial rock: materials deposited by running water

Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act: California law passed in 1972 to prevent construction of building used for human occupancy on surface traces of active faults

Aquifer: water-bearing geologic formation that permits the movement of groundwater

A-weighted sound levels: approximate way humans interpret sound

Baseline: foundation or basis to use for comparison purposes

Bas-relief: sculptural element characterized by varied surface planes

BTU: British Thermal Unit, equal to the amount of heat required to raise one pound of water one degree Fahrenheit at one atmosphere of pressure

Buttressing: an action that provides support or stability to a structure

Cenozoic era: 70 million years ago

Class I trail: trail within a separate right-of-way designated for exclusive use by bicycles and pedestrians, with cross traffic by motorists minimized

Class II trail: trail within a restricted right-of-way designated for semiexclusive use by bicycles, with traffic by motor vehicles or pedestrians at crossings

Class III trail: trail located within a right-of-way designated by signs or permanent markings and shared with pedestrians and motorists

CNEL: a 24-hour Leq that has been adjusted to add a "penalty" of five dBA for evening noise (between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.) and ten dBA for nighttime noise (between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.)

Cofferdam: watertight enclosure from which water is pumped to expose the bottom of a body of water and permit construction

Community cohesion: the degree to which residents have a sense of belonging to their neighborhood, a level of commitment of the residents to the community, or a strong attachment to neighbors, groups and institutions, usually as a result of continued association over time

Contra-flow: movement against general flow

Cretaceous period: 146 to 65 million years ago

Cumulative impacts: (1) as defined by CEQA, two or more individual effects which, when considered together, are considerable or which compound or increase other environmental impacts. (2) As defined by NEPA, impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

Cut slope: that portion of a slope that remains once soils have been removed

Decibel (dB): a logarithmic scale measurement of noise

De minimis: Latin for “of minimum importance.” It refers to something or a difference that is so small that analysis does not consider it as an impact. Especially applicable to air quality analysis.

Densification: the process of making an element more compact by reducing air space

Dewatering: the process of removing water from an area or element

Emergent: arising naturally

Environmental justice: identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations

Erosion: process by which rock and earth are either worn away or transported, usually by water, wind or ice

Fecundity: fruitful in offspring or vegetation

Fill slope: a slope created from imported soils

G force: the force whose magnitude is equal to the gravitational force acting on a body at sea level, expressed as 1.0g

Grade separated: on separate levels

Groundwater: free water occurring in a zone of saturation below the ground surface

Growth inducement: the relationship between the proposed transportation project and growth within the project area

Habitat: an area where plants or animals naturally occur

Headway: the time between buses or other transit vehicles (a 15-minute headway means one bus every 15 minutes)

Herbaceous: having little or no woody tissue and persisting usually for a single growing season

Holocene period: within the last 11,000 years

In lieu: instead of or in place of

Insertion loss: the actual noise level reduction at a specific receiver due to construction of a noise barrier between the noise source (traffic) and the receiver

In-situ: in the natural or original position

Jurassic period: about 200 million years ago, when dinosaurs were reaching their gigantic forms

Landscape unit: an area of distinct, but not necessarily homogenous, visual character

Landslide: movement of slope-forming earth or rock materials downward under the influence of gravity

Leq: a measure of the average noise level during a specified period of time

Leq(h), dBA: equivalent or average noise level for the noisiest hour expressed in A-weighted decibels

Level of Service (LOS): a rating using qualitative measures that characterize operational conditions within a traffic stream and their perception by motorists and passengers

Liquefaction: the transformation of soils from a solid state to a liquid state due to increase water pressures

Logarithmic Scale: a measurement in which the ratio of successive intervals is not equal to 1 (which is typical for linear scales) but is some common factor larger than the previous interval (a typical ratio is 10, so that the marks on the scale read: 1, 10, 100, 1000, 10000, etc., this is useful for plotting a graph of values that have a very large range)

Mainline: a principal highway, exclusive of connectors, ramps, etc.

Major Investment Study (MIS): evaluates alternatives for their ability to solve transportation problems within a study area

Measure M: a one-half-cent sales tax approved by the Orange County voters in November 1990 for countywide transportation improvements

Mean high-water mark: line on the shore reached by the plane of the mean (average) high water as observed from the "apparent shoreline" as indicated by physical markings, lines of vegetation, or changes in type of vegetation

Mesoscale: regional, as it applies to air quality analysis

Microscale: local, as it applies to air quality analysis

Midden: refuse accumulation associated with prehistoric people

Monocultures: the cultivation of a single product to the exclusion of other uses of land

Non-water-contact recreation: involves activities where contact with the water is not likely, such as scenic viewing, photography, etc.

Noxious weed: a plant that has been defined as a pest by law or regulation. Both California and the United States government maintain lists of plants that are considered threats to the well being of the state or the country.

NPL/Superfund: federal list of those sites that pose an immediate public health hazard and where an immediate response to the discovery was necessary

Ordinary high-water mark: the line on the shore established by the fluctuation of water and physically indicated on the bank

Poverty Level: income for a family of four does not exceed \$12,674 in 1989 dollars

Prime farmland: rural land with the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is available for these uses

Richter Scale: a logarithmic scale recording the severity of earthquakes. Because the scale is logarithmic, a 4.2 quake is ten times stronger than a 4.1 quake

Riparian: relating to or living or located on the bank of a natural watercourse, lake, or tidewater

Riprap: a foundation or sustaining wall of stones thrown together without order to strengthen or support an element

Ruderal: a weedy and commonly introduced plant growing where the vegetational cover has been interrupted

Screenline: imaginary line across parallel roadways

Sedimentary rock: rock resulting from the consolidation of sediment

Seiche: the oscillation of sloshing water caused by landslides in a lake, bay or other enclosed body of water as a result of seismic activity

Senate Bill 45: program that consolidated various funding programs into the STIP and created more accountability for programming and delivery of STIP projects to the regions around the state and the various Caltrans' districts

Soil association: a mapping unit used in detailed soil surveys, consisting of two or more distinguishable soils in a given geographic area that are grouped together on the basis of their areal distribution

South Coast Air Quality Management District: a regional regulatory agency with the primary responsibility for improving air quality in the South Coast Air Basin.

Strike-slip fault: a fault in which two sections of rock have moved horizontally in opposite directions, parallel to the line of the fracture that divided them. Strike-slip faults are caused by shearing stress.

Subsidence: sinking or lowering of the land surface

Take: to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct (as defined in Section 3 of the Endangered Species Act)

Tertiary period: 65 to 1.8 million years ago

Transit-dependent population: the population over the age of 16 (workers) who use public transportation as a means of traveling to and from home to work. The category, "public transportation," includes workers who used a bus or trolley bus, streetcar or trolley car, subway or elevated, railroad, ferryboat, or taxicab.

Transportation demand management: the operation and coordination of various transportation system policies and programs to provide the most efficient and effective use of existing transportation services and facilities

Transportation system management: actions that improve the operation and coordination transportation services and facilities to realize the most efficient use of the existing transportation system

Triassic period: when dinosaurs first evolved about 225 million years ago

Tributary watercourse: a stream feeding a larger stream or a lake

Trinomial: an alphanumeric abbreviation for a previously identified historic or prehistoric resource, such as CA-ORA-1352, representing the state (eg., California or CA-), the county (eg., Orange or -ORA-), and a unique number assigned by the State Historic Preservation Office (such as -1352)

Tsunamis: waves that travel in the open ocean and are caused by an undersea earthquake, landslide or volcanic activity

Uplift: the action of a portion of the earth's surface as it rises above adjacent areas

Viewshed: all areas where physical changes associated with the proposed project can be seen

Visual intactness: visual integrity of the visual environment and its freedom from encroaching elements

Visual unity: visual coherence and compositional harmony of the landscape when considered as a whole

Visual vividness: visual power or memorability of landscape components as they combine in striking and distinctive patterns

Water-contact recreation: includes activities in which contact with the water is likely, such as swimming, water-skiing, or fishing

Weir: a dam in a stream to raise the water level or divert its flow

Wildlife corridor: a large patch of habitat connecting two or more larger areas of habitat, which is essentially free of physical barriers such as fences, walls, and developed areas

15.2 LIST OF ACRONYMS

µgm/m ³	micrograms/cubic meter
2+ HOV	High-occupancy-vehicle lane requiring two or more persons
3+ HOV	High-occupancy-vehicle lane requiring three or more persons
AAQS	Ambient air quality standards
AB	Assembly Bill
ACHP	Advisory Council of Historic Preservation
ACM	Asbestos containing materials
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADL	Aerially deposited lead
ADT	Average daily trips
AFRC	Armed Forces Reserve Center
AHERA	Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act
AM	morning (as in AM peak periods)
APE	Area of Potential Effect
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
ATS	Advanced Transportation Systems
AWP	Annual Work Plan
B.A.	Bachelor of Arts
B.B.A.	Bachelor of Business Administration
B.E.	Bachelor of Engineering
B.E.D.	Bachelor of Environmental Design
BG	Block group
B.L.A.	Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
BMPs	Best management practices
B.S.	Bachelor of Science
B.S.C.E.	Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

BTU	British thermal unit
C	Celsius
CAA	Clean Air Act (federal)
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments (federal)
CAL-EPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
Caltrans	California Department of Transportation
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCAA	California Clean Air Act
CCR	California Code of Regulation
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CESQA	Conditionally exempt small-quantity generator
CFR	Code of Federal Regulation
cfs	Cubic feet per second
CH ₄	Methane
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CMP	Congestion Management Program
cms	Cubic meters per second
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	Carbon monoxide
Corps	United States Army Corps of Engineers
CT	Census tracts
CTC	California Transportation Commission

CTFP	Combined Transportation Funding Program
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
EIR/EIS	Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERNS	Emergency Response Notification System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESA	Environmental site assessment
FAE	Finding of Adverse Effect
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FFTP	<i>FastForward</i> Long-Range Transportation Plan
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GIS	Geographic information systems
GPS	Global positioning system
HABS/HAER	Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Record
HC	Hydrocarbons
HOV	High-occupancy vehicle
HPSR	Historic Property Survey Report
HT	Heavy trucks
I-5	Interstate 5
I-405	Interstate 405
I-605	Interstate 605
IC	Interchange
ICU	Interchange capacity utilization
ISA	Initial Site Assessment
ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991

ITS	Intelligent transportation system
kg	kilogram
km/h	kilometers per hour
LBP	Lead-based paint
LDV	Light-duty vehicles
Leq	Equivalent sound level
Leq(h)	One-hour equivalent sound level
LOS	Level of service
LPS	Locally preferred strategy
LQG	Large-quantity generator
LRP	Long-range plan
LUST	Leaking underground storage tank
M.A.	Master of Arts
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
mg	milligram
mg/m ³	milligrams/cubic meters
MIS	Major Investment Study
mm	millimeter
MOA	Memorandum of agreement
MOE	Measure of effectiveness
MOU	Memorandum of understanding
MPAH	<i>Master Plan of Arterial Highways</i>
mph	Miles per hour
MPO	Metropolitan planning organization
MT	Medium trucks
MTA	Metropolitan Transportation Authority
M.U.P.	Master of Urban Planning
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NASR	Negative Archaeological Survey Report
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NES	Natural Environment Study
NESHAP	National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
NO	Nitric oxide
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
NOI	Notice of Intent
NOIS	Notification of Initiation of Studies
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NO _x	Nitrogen oxide
NPL	National Priority List
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NVALP	National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program
O ₃	Ozone
OCFCD	Orange County Flood Control District
OCP-96	Orange County Projections 1996
OCSD	Orange County Sanitation District
OCTA	Orange County Transportation Authority
OCTAM 2.8	Orange County Transportation Analysis Model, version 2.8
OCWD	Orange County Water District
O-D	Origin-destination pair
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Pb	Lead
PDT	Project Development Team
PFRD	Public Facilities and Resources Department (Orange County)
Ph.D.	Doctor of Philosophy

PIP	Public Involvement Program
PLM	Polarized Light Microscopy
PM	Afternoon or evening (as in PM peak periods)
PM	Particulate matter
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter smaller than or equal to 2.5 microns
PM ₁₀	Particulate matter smaller than or equal to ten microns
PMT	Project Management Team
ppm	Parts per million
PS&E	Plans, Specifications, and Estimates
RBC	Reinforced box culvert
RCRA (Large)	Resource Conservation Recovery Act large-quantity generator
RCRA (Small)	Resource Conservation Recovery Act small-quantity generator
RCRA (TRANS)	Resource Conservation Recovery Act Transporter
ROC	Reactive organic precursors
RTIP	Regional Transportation Improvement Program
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SARA	Superfund Authorization Reamendment Act
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SCE	Southern California Edison
SCG	Southern California Gas Company
SCH No.	State Clearinghouse Number
SCL	State CERCLA or Superfund
SHPO	State Office of Historic Preservation
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO ₂	Sulfur dioxide

SO ₃	Sulfur trioxide
SOUND32	Noise modeling program
SOV	Single-occupancy vehicle
SO _x	Sulfur oxides
SPL	State Priority List
SQG	Small-quantity generator
SR-22	State Route 22
SR-55	State Route 55
SR-57	State Route 57
SR-73	State Route 73
SR-91	State Route 91
SR-133	State Route 133
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
SWLF	Solid waste landfill
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
TCM	Transportation control measure
TCRP	Transportation Congestion Relief Plan (AB 2928)
TDM	Transportation demand management
TDS	Total dissolved solids
TEA-21	Transportation Equity Act for the 21 st Century
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
TRAN	Transporter
TRIS	Toxic Chemical Release Inventory System
TSM	Transportation system management
USACOE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
U.S.C.	United States Code

USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
UST	Underground storage tank
VAE	Visual area estimation
V/C	Volume to capacity
VHT	Vehicle hours traveled
VKT	Vehicle kilometers traveled
VMT	Vehicle miles traveled
vphpl	Vehicles per hour per lane

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